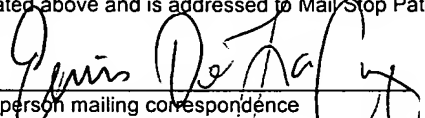


Certificate of Mailing	
Date of Deposit: <u>February 10, 2004</u>	Label Number: <u>EV 232035151 US</u>
I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
<u>Elvis De La Cruz</u> Printed name of person mailing correspondence	 Signature of person mailing correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Antonios G. Mikos et al. Art Unit: 1651  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: February 10, 2004 Customer No.: 21559  
Title: POROUS BIODEGRADABLE POLYMERIC MATERIALS FOR  
CELL TRANSPLANTATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application submitted with this amendment, kindly amend the application as follows.

In the Claims.

Kindly cancel pending claims 1-10, and replace them with the following new claims.

11. A polymeric matrix formed of a biodegradable, biocompatible, synthetic, amorphous polymer or semi-crystalline polymer with a degree of crystallinity in the range of from 0 to 24.5% having a porosity of between 45 to 93% and a pore size range of greater than zero to 500 microns that is suitable for attachment and

proliferation of dissociated cells.

12. The matrix of claim 1, further comprising cells selected from the group consisting of: hepatocytes, pancreatic islet cells, fibroblasts, chondrocytes, osteoblasts, exocrine cells, cells of intestinal origin, bile duct cells, parathyroid cells, thyroid cells, cells of the adrenal-hypothalamic-pituitary axis, heart muscle cells, kidney epithelial cells, kidney tubular cells, kidney basement membrane cells, nerve cells, blood vessel cells, cells forming bone and cartilage, smooth muscle cells, and skeletal muscle cells.

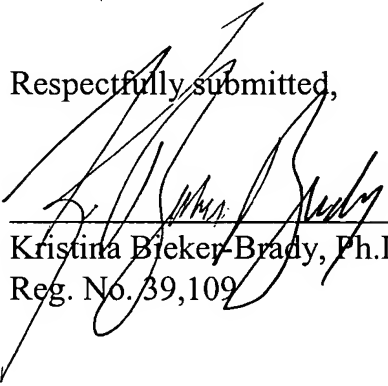
13. The matrix of claim 1, further comprising a material enhancing cell attachment to the polymer, wherein said material overlays the polymer.

No new matter has been added by the present amendment. If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Date:

*February 10, 2004*

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristina Bleker-Brady, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 39,109

Clark & Elbing LLP  
101 Federal Street  
Boston, MA 02110  
Telephone: 617-428-0200  
Facsimile: 617-428-7045